



MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

LTC# 191-2013

LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO: Mayor Matti Herrera Bower and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jimmy L. Morales, City Manager

DATE: May 31, 2013

SUBJECT: **County 60-inch By-pass Force Main Construction**

The purpose of this Letter to Commission is to provide you with information on the Miami-Dade County Water and Sewer Department (WASD) 60-inch emergency by-pass force main construction activities. From Sunday, June 2nd at 10:00 pm through Thursday morning, June 6th, WASD will be "hot" tapping into the existing sanitary sewer force main.

BACKGROUND

As discussed in previous LTC's, the Army Corps of Engineers will be dredging Government Cut to allow the new super post-panamax vessels access to the seaport. In advance of the dredging, WASD is installing a new 60-inch wastewater force main under the Government Cut navigation channel that will replace the existing force main that is too shallow for the proposed depth of Government Cut.

The new force main was proposed to reconnect to the existing force main at Fisher Island and at a shaft in the water southeast of the Miami Beach Marina. The construction methodology called for the contractor to expose and support the 54-inch main and to install a by-pass through a "hot" tap, connecting the by-pass to the 54-inch force main while sewage is flowing through it.

However, while assessing the condition of the existing force main, WASD found several sections upstream of the proposed "hot" tap location that were in danger of failing. As a result of this finding, WASD constructed a 60-inch diameter force main from the shaft adjacent to the marina to a shaft in South Pointe Park, which then extends north on Washington Avenue and west on Commerce Street to the existing force main on Alton Road (See attachment).

ANALYSIS

For several months, WASD, the contractor, and the City have been preparing the plan for "hot" tapping the force main. At a meeting this morning, they reviewed the weather forecast, the tides, and other factors affecting the proposed operation and made the decision to move forward with this phase of the work.

Beginning Sunday, June 2nd at 10:00 pm, WASD will commence the tapping operation of the existing force main on Fisher Island. That work is scheduled to end Tuesday morning. The contractor then plans to begin the Miami Beach tapping on Tuesday night, June 4th, with continuous activity until completion on Thursday morning, June 6th.

During this time, the MOT plan is proposed to remain the same as it is now. The current MOT is as follows: South of 1st Street, Alton Road is closed to northbound traffic and one southbound lane is closed. Westbound traffic on South Pointe Drive is detouring to Washington Avenue and 1st Street. The western end of Commerce Street is closed to all traffic, but access to Joe's parking lot is not impacted.

The WASD PIO is creating a press release and sending emails to the residents south of 5th Street to explain the MOT and hours of work.

Per the plan developed between WASD and Miami Beach Public Works, the City has begun pumping its sanitary sewer wet wells down and has advised its satellite cities to do the same, so that it can refrain from pumping as much as possible during the tapping. In addition, the City will be present at both the Fisher Island and Miami Beach tap locations to coordinate the operation of the lift stations and to respond to any emergencies.

EMERGENCY SPILL CONTROL PLAN

In the case of a controllable spill, WASD will pump the wastewater into the new force main with emergency by-pass pumps. In the case of a catastrophic spill, the plan is to reverse the flow and discharge to the ocean outfall on 74th Street.

In preparation for a catastrophic failure, WASD and Miami Beach Public Works crews conducted a dry run of emergency procedures (valve closures, notifications, etc.) on May 17th. Should the activation of the ocean outfall be necessary, WASD will also have a mobile sodium hypochlorite (bleach) injection system available at 74th and Ocean Terrace to provide disinfection.

Should you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Attachment:
WASD Construction Phasing


MT/ETC/~~JS~~/RWS

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EMERGENCY 80" FORCE MAIN
INSTALLATION FISHER ISLAND
TO MIAMI BEACH

OVERALL PROJECT ALIGNMENT

1"=50'-0"
0 25 50

